

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 28TH SESSION:
COUNCIL - PART I**

Please fill out one form for each textual proposal which your delegation(s) wish(es) to amend, add or delete and send to council@isa.org.jm.

1. Name of Working Group:

Informal Working Group on the protection and preservation of the marine environment

2. Name(s) of Delegation(s) making the proposal:

Canada

3. Please indicate the relevant provision to which the textual proposal refers.

Regulation 44, Paragraph 1 (a)

4. Kindly provide the proposed amendments to the regulation or standard or guideline in the text box below, using the “track changes” function in Microsoft Word. Please only reproduce the parts of the text that are being amended or deleted.

(iii) Integrate Best Available Scientific Evidence in decision-making, including all risk assessments and management undertaken in connection with environmental assessments, acknowledging knowledge gaps and uncertainties, and the management and response measures taken under or in accordance with Best Environmental Practices; and

(iv) Ensure accountability and transparency in the assessment, evaluation and management of Environmental Effects and risks from Exploitation in the Area, including through Stakeholder participation and the timely prompt public release of relevant environmental data and information, including sampling methodologies and associated metadata, at regular intervals and in an accessible format through the Authority’s website.

5. Please indicate the rationale for the proposal. [150-word limit]

We believe these regulations (under para 1 a, 3) should include additional text on uncertainties, as it is important to know knowledge gaps but also what variabilities, standards of error, and other unknowns are in the data used. So this would read, ‘acknowledging knowledge gaps and uncertainties’ To complement this, our delegation would also suggest inclusion of reference to sampling methodologies and associated metadata in para 1, a 4. To read as, “environmental data and information, including sampling methodologies and associated metadata,”. The sampling technique and metadata (i.e. position, cruise, date etc) for each datum should be provided in order to permit data to be independently evaluated.

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Regulation 44.2bis (c) & (f)

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(c) Integrate Best Available Scientific Evidence in decision making, including all risk assessments and management undertaken in connection with environmental assessments, acknowledging knowledge gaps and uncertainties, and the management and response measures taken under or in accordance with Best Environmental Practices; and

(f) In implementing the regulations, act so as not to transfer, directly or indirectly, damage or likelihood of damage from one part of the environment to another or transform one type of pollution into another as stated in article 195 of the Convention. This especially related to the previous reference to avoiding toxic, persistent and bio accumulative substances.

5. Please indicate the rationale for the proposal. [150-word limit]

We believe these regulations should include additional text on uncertainties, as it is important to know knowledge gaps but also what variabilities, standards of error, and other unknowns are in the data used. In 44 2bis (f), we would suggest the inclusion of the previous reference to toxic, persistent and bio accumulative substances be included at the paragraph to retain consistency across regulations.